Development of JROs by BPCL in Punjab

3163. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to unstarred Question 1080 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 2001 and state:

(a) the total number of JROs originally proposed to be developed in Punjab by BPCL;

(b) whether the Bathinda Territory Manager of BPCL had applied for NOC for the plot of land identified at Burj (Abohar) for development of JRO to Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur in 8th May, 2000, if so, when NOC was received; and

(c) whether the company applied for the NOC without completion of formalities; if not, how NOC was applied for in May, 2000 when the said plot was stated to have been identified in June, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) originally proposed to develop 6 Jubilee Retail Outlets (JRCs) in the State of Punjab.

(b) and (c) The BPCL had applied for a plot of land at Burj (Abohar) on 8.5.2000 and the 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) was received on 24.8.2000. As it takes considerable time to obtain the NOC from the District Authorities, in order to save time and in the interest of the early commissioning of the JRO, the BPCL applied for the NOC immediately after the survey of the area where the subject plot of land is situated. Thus the BPCL applied for the NOC before the landlords were officially informed of its inention to purchase the land.

LPG Distributors in Madhya Pradesh

†3164. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the number and names of companies of gas distributors in Madhya Pradesh and the criteria of appointing LPG distributors;

(b) whether Government would make arrangement of gas agencies according to the requirement of the State; and

(c) if so, the number of gas agencies targeted to be opened in the State during this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) At present, 3 Public Sector Oil Marketing Company i.e. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) are operating LPG distributorships in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

As on 1.4.2001, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies were operating 343 LPG distributorships. Further, 304 LPG distributorships are pending for commissioning at present under various Marketing Plans in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The selection of distributorships is made through dealer Selection Boards (DSB) in a phased manner and it may not be possible at this stage to indicate the exact number of allotments for LPG distributorships during 2001-2002.

Exploration of oil deposits in Kerala

3165. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider to undertake any new projects for the exploration of oil and natural gas in the coastal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to explore the oil deposits in the coastal belt of Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?